

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 206785
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 206785

FOR EA ONLY, MANILA POUCH CEBU

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, PINT, MASS, RP

SUBJECT:WEEKLY STATUS REPORT - PHILIPPINES

1. PL 480 TITLE I (CONFIDENTIAL)

WE ATTENDED A MEETING AUGUST 14 CHAIRED BY ALEX SHAKOW TO REVIEW PL 480 TITLE I FOR FY 1979 AND TO DISCUSS -- ON A PRELIMINARY BASIS -- FY 1980. ON FY 1979 WE ARE HOLDING OUT FOR AT LEAST DOLS 10 MILLION WITH AID AND FFP ON BOARD SO FAR (USDA PROPOSES DOLS 13 MILLION). FOR FY 1980, UNDER ZBB, STATE HAS PROPOSED DOLS 10 MILLION IN THE "CURRENT" CATEGORY PLUS DOLS 5.4 MILLION IN THE "PROPOSED" CATEGORY. AID AND FFP WOULD PLACE THE ENTIRE DOLS 15.4 MILLION UNDER "PROPOSED" --THE CATEGORY MOST LIKELY TO BE CUT. WE WILL BE REVIEWING OUR CASE WITH EMBASSY MANILA.

2. FILIPINO MUSLIMS TO CALL ON EA/PHL AND CAPITOL HILL STAFFERS (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)
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RASHID LUCMAN, SALIPADA PENDATUN, AND FORMER GOVERNOR TERHATA ALONTO-LUCMAN, WHO ARE KEY MEMBERS OF THE BANGSA MORO LIBERATION ORGANIZATION (BMLO), HAVE THROUGH INTER-MEDIARIES REQUESTED MEETINGS WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE, SENATOR ROTH, AND OTHER MEMBERS OF CONGRESS WITH WHOM MACAPANTON ABBAS MADE CONTACT EARLIER THIS SUMMER.

SENATOR ROTH'S STAFFER CHARLES MORRISON IS ASSEMBLING A GROUP OF INTERESTED SENATE AND HOUSE STAFFERS TO MEET THESE THREE INDIVIDUALS, THE BACKERS OF HASHIM SALAMAT'S CHALLENGE TO NUR MISUARI'S CLAIM OF CONTROL OVER THE MORO NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT (MNLF). I RECOMMEND THAT THEY BE RECEIVED AT STATE AT THE COUNTRY DIRECTORATE LEVEL. BELISARIO OF THE PHILIPPINE EMBASSY, INFORMED OF THEIR VISIT, SEEMED UNPERTURBED, DESCRIBING THE BMLO AS A "SPLINTER GROUP." UNDER SECRETARY NEWSOM HAS BEEN ALERTED TO THE VISITORS' PLANS, AND WE ARE PREPARING UNCLASSIFIED BIOGRAPHIES AND A BRIEFING FOR THOSE HILL STAFFERS WHO PLAN TO MEET THEM.

3. PLEASE NOTE FOR EA ONLY CAPTION.

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Message Attributes

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